



Forest Utilization Research and Outreach (FUR)

2009

STRATEGIC PLAN

Forest Utilization Research and Outreach

Mission Statement

The effect of the Forest Utilization Research and Outreach (FUR) program is to increase the productivity of Idaho's forest lands by conceiving, analyzing, and developing methodologies that improve intensive forest harvesting practices, improve and increase wood use and wood residue utilization technologies, improve forest regeneration, forest and rangeland restoration, and nursery management practices, demonstrate state-of-the-art scientifically, socially and environmentally sound forest and range nursery, regeneration, and management practices, provide through the Policy Analysis Group unbiased factual and timely information on natural resources issues facing Idaho's decision makers.

FUR is located in the College of Natural Resources at The University of Idaho, which is an internationally recognized land-grant research institution combining research, outreach, graduate, and professional education with a strong undergraduate base in the liberal arts.

VISION STATEMENT

Our scholarly and creative activity generates knowledge that strengthens the scientific, economic, cultural, social, and legal foundations of an open, diverse, and democratic society. Our outreach and engagement facilitates the development of prosperous and environmentally sound communities and industries. Our learning activities are integrated with FUR research and seek to engage every student in a transformative journey of discovery and understanding.

Our work is shaped by a passion for knowledge, innovation and creativity, by the rigor of high academic and ethical standards, by the attainment of each individual's full human potential, by the enrichment generated through diversity, and by the dissolution of cultural and organizational barriers. We are committed to improving our community, the communities we serve, and the facilities necessary for us to fulfill our vision and mission.

We emphasize quality and access, focusing our efforts on sustaining strong programs and investing resources in strategic directions that advance the interests of Idaho in an increasingly interdependent and competitive world. Through collaboration across strong academic disciplines, and through the creation of public, private, and community partnerships, we undertake bold initiatives to promote science, technology, and their applications; to catalyze entrepreneurial innovation; to steward the natural environment; and to develop the design, lifestyles and civic infrastructures of sustainable communities.

Forest Utilization Research and Outreach (FUR)

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Scholarship and Creativity

Achieve excellence in scholarship and creative activity through an institutional culture that values and promotes strong academic areas and interdisciplinary collaboration among them.

Objective A: Promote an environment that increases faculty engagement in interdisciplinary scholarship.

Strategies:

1. Use hiring to strengthen interdisciplinary scholarship that advances the college's strategic themes and land-grant mission.
2. Establish, renew, remodel, and reallocate facilities to encourage collaborative interdisciplinary inquiry and provide access to information resources and innovative technologies.

Performance Measures:

Number of CNR faculty involved in interdisciplinary scholarship.

Laboratories and field facilities that support CNR interdisciplinary inquiry.

Benchmarks:

Number of faculty and number of facilities meet targets set for interdisciplinary Forest Utilization Research in CNR

Objective B: Emphasize scholarly and creative activities that support the college's strategic themes, the research-extensive and land-grant missions, and strategically important graduate and professional programs.

Strategies:

1. Enhance scholarly modes of discovery, application and integration that address issues of importance to the citizens of Idaho that improve forest and rangeland regeneration, nursery management practices, and forest and rangeland productivity.
2. Build strategic research and technological transfer activities statewide and regionally through unbiased analyses of the Policy Analysis Group.

Performance Measure:

Services provided by CNR for statewide FUR stakeholders

Benchmark:

Number of service events and total participants in CNR events provided for FUR stakeholders.

Goal 2: Outreach and Engagement

Engage with the public, private and non-profit sectors through mutually beneficial partnerships that enhance teaching, learning, discovery, and creativity.

Objective A: Build upon, strengthen, and connect the College of Natural Resources with other parts of the University to engage in mutually beneficial partnerships with stakeholders.

Strategies:

1. Grow the capacity of the College of Natural Resources to engage with communities by involving faculty and students in programs relevant to local and regional issues.

2. Engage with communities and organizations through flexible partnerships that share resources and respond to local needs and expectations.
3. Foster key industry/business relationships that benefit entrepreneurship and social and economic development through innovation and technology transfer that will increase the productivity of Idaho's forests, rangelands, and waterways.

Performance Measure:

Cases served: examples include: communities served; workshops/tours conducted; FUR stakeholder attendees; invited presentations; research, teaching and service projects; research studies completed/published; private landowners assisted and seedling research projects.

Benchmark:

Meeting target numbers for examples above.

Goal 3: Teaching and Learning

Engage students in a transformational experience of discovery, understanding, and global citizenship.

Objective A: Develop effective integrative learning activities to engage and expand student minds.

Strategies:

1. Provide undergraduate, graduate and professional students with education and research opportunities in nursery management, wood utilization technologies and forest and rangeland regeneration and restoration.
2. Integrate educational experiences into research programs at CNR outdoor laboratories, including the college Experimental Forest, the Forest Nursery complex, and McCall campus.
3. Engage alumni and stakeholders as partners in research, learning, and outreach.

Performance Measures:

FUR learning and research opportunities integrated into undergraduate, graduate and professional student programs in CNR on the Moscow campus and in CNR off-campus sites. Engagement of alumni and other stakeholders in FUR learning, research and outreach activities.

Benchmark:

Meeting target numbers for activities proposed above.